

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 3-9, and 11-20 remain in this application. Claims 1, 6, 14, and 15 are amended. No new matter is added by the amendments to the claims.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102

At page 2 of this Office Action, claims 1 and 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Smith et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,466,235 ("Smith"). Applicants submit that amended claim 1 and claims 3-5 are not anticipated by Smith because Smith does not disclose all of the elements of Applicants' claimed invention.

Smith discloses a multi-functional avionics display where the display is divided into quadrants and a pop-up menu of available instrument functions to be displayed is provided for each quadrant and accessible therein. A pilot can select an available instrument function for display in the corresponding quadrant. The available options in the upper right-hand quadrant pop-up menu and the lower right-hand quadrant pop-up menu are the some other than their respective location on the display (see Col. 4, lines 13-22). If an FMS initialization function is selected from the menu, the FMS initialization function is displayed in full view at the right-hand half side as a default display feature (see Col. 4, lines 27-52).

Claim 1 is amended to recite "wherein the monitors display the information on a plurality of panels, wherein each of the plurality of panels is configured to display a display content, the display content pre-assigned to a subset of sizes of the limited set of sizes based on a pre-determined priority, and wherein each of the plurality of panels is configured to be located on the avionics display based on the pre-determined priority [emphasis added]". Applicants submit that although

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Smith discloses quadrants for display of various instrument functions, Smith does not teach or suggest display content that is pre-assigned to a subset of sizes based on a pre-determined priority. In contrast with amended claim 1, Smith simply teaches default display sizes of either a full vertical expansion or a single quadrant display. Additionally, Smith does not teach or suggest location of the panels based on a pre-determined priority. Smith is not concerned with relating display content with pre-assigned sizes based on a pre-determined priority or with panel location based on the pre-determined priority.

In the Office Action, it is further asserted that Smith discloses “[o]ne quadrant specifically is substantially $1/6$ and $1/3$ of display area. Applicants submit that one definition of a “quadrant” is “any of the four parts into which a plane is divided by rectangular coordinate axes lying in that plane” (see Merriam-Webster ONLINE dictionary at <http://www.merriam-webster.com>). From this definition, one “quadrant” is not $1/6$ nor $1/3$ but rather $1/4$. Applicants submit that Smith does not disclose a limited set of sizes of “ $1/6$, $1/3$, $1/2$, $2/3$, and $3/3$ of the display” as recited in amended claim 1.

Applicants submit that because of the foregoing patentable differences between amended claim 1 and Smith and because claims 3-5 depend from claim 1 or an intermediate claim depending therefrom, Applicants submit that claims 3-5 are likewise patentably distinguished from Smith. Because of the foregoing discussion regarding the patentability of claim 1 and because claims 3-5 depend from claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Smith, either alone or in combination with the cited references, does not anticipate or obviate claims 1 and 3-5.

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CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 USC §103(a)

At page 5 of this Office Action, claims 6 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith in view of Briffe et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,112,141 ("Briffe"). Applicants submit that claims 6 and 13 are not obviated by Smith in view of Briffe because none of the cited references, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest all of the elements of Applicants' invention.

In this Office Action, it is asserted that Smith teaches a cockpit display system having display panels wherein one of the panels is selectively configurable to have a size from a limited set of sizes of 1/6, 1/3, 1/2, and 3/3 of the display. From the foregoing discussion regarding amended claim 1, Applicants submit that Smith does not disclose the limited set of sizes set forth in amended claim 6. At best Smith discloses a set of sizes of 1/4 and 1/2.

Additionally, claim 6 is amended to recite "wherein each of the plurality of panels is configured to display a display content, the display content pre-assigned to a subset of sizes of the limited set of sizes based on a pre-determined priority, and wherein each of the plurality of panels is configured to be located on the display based on the pre-determined priority [emphasis added]."

From the previous discussion regarding amended claim 1, Applicants submit that Smith, either alone or in combination with the cited references, does not teach or suggest relating display content with pre-assigned sizes based on a pre-determined priority or with panel location based on the pre-determined priority.

Briffe is cited for teaching a plurality of monitors for displaying sets of information and a processor communicating with the monitors. Briffe, either alone or in combination with Smith, does not teach or suggest display content with pre-assigned sizes based on a pre-determined priority

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or with panel location based on the pre-determined priority. Instead, Briffe discloses an aircraft display and control system having cursor control devices for receiving pilot-entered commands and display devices generating moveable cursors corresponding to each cursor control device. Although Briffe discloses displays having maps and charts that may occupy 5/6 or 1/4 of a screen and that may be automatically compressed to 1/6 of the screen, such screen sizes are default settings. Briffe does not teach or suggest pre-assigning a subset of sizes for each display content based on a pre-determined priority. Additionally, Briffe makes no mention of locating panels based on the pre-determined priority.

Because amended claim 6 is patentably distinguished from Smith and Briffe and because claim 13 depends from claim 6, Applicants submit that claim 13 is likewise patentably distinguished from the combination of Smith and Briffe.

At page 7 of this Office Action, claims 7-8, 11-12, and 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith in view of Briffe as applied to claims 6 and 13, and further in view of Factor, U.S. Patent No. 6,281,810 ("Factor"). From the foregoing discussion regarding the patentability of claim 6 and because claims 7-8 and 11-12 depend from claim 6 or an intermediate claim depending therefrom, Applicants submit that claims 7-8 and 11-12 are likewise patentably distinguished from Smith, Briffe, and Factor, either alone or in combination. Applicants further submit that claims 14-19 are patentably distinguished from the cited references.

Factor is cited for disclosing a "processor configured to provide the second set of information to the first monitor if the second monitor fails". Factor, either alone or in combination with Smith in view of Briffe, does not teach or suggest display content with pre-assigned sizes based on a pre-determined priority or with panel location based on the pre-determined priority. Instead,

Factor discloses an avionics display for aircraft instruments with a glass cockpit instrument having optical projectors that each has a separate operating computer capable of illuminating an entire screen.

Claim 14 is amended to recite “wherein each of the plurality of monitors is configured to display the information on a plurality of panels, at least one of the plurality of panels is selectively configurable to have a size selected from a limited set of non-user defined sizes, wherein each of the sets of information is pre-assigned to a subset of sizes of the limited set of sizes based on a pre-determined priority, and wherein each of the plurality of panels is configured to be located on the monitor based on the pre-determined priority [emphasis added]”. Factor does not teach or suggest pre-assigning a subset of sizes for each display content based on a pre-determined priority. Additionally, Factor makes no mention of locating panels based on the pre-determined priority.

Because none of the cited references discloses the aforementioned features of amended claim 14, Applicants submit that the combination of Factor with Smith and Briffe does not result in Applicants’ invention. From the foregoing discussion regarding the patentability of claim 14 and because claims 15-19 depend from claim 14, Applicants submit that claims 15-19 are likewise patentably distinguished from the combination of Smith, Briffe, and Factor.

At page 10 of this Office Action, claims 9 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith in view of Briffe as applied to claims 6 and 13, and further in view of Factor as applied to claims 7-8, 11-12, and 14-19, and further in view of Nakajima et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0055029 (“Nakajima”). Nakajima is cited for disclosing “the first set of information corresponds to a first priority, and wherein the processor is configured to provide

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the second set of information to the first monitor only if the second priority is higher than the first priority.”

Nakajima discloses a display control system for switching images to be displayed from one host computer having a high display priority and another host computer having a display priority lower than that of the other host computer. Nakajima, either alone or in combination with Smith in view of Briffe and further in view of Factor, does not teach or suggest display content with pre-assigned sizes based on a pre-determined priority or with panel location based on the pre-determined priority.

From the foregoing discussion regarding the patentability of claim 6 and 14 and because claim 9 depends from an intermediate claim depending from claim 6 and claim 20 depends from claim 14, Applicants submit that claims 9 and 20 are likewise patentably distinguished from Smith, Briffe, Factor, and Nakajima, either alone or in combination.

CONCLUSION

In view of Applicants' remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Examiner's rejections under 35 USC §§102 and 103 have been overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is therefore earnestly requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorneys at 480-385-5060.

If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this

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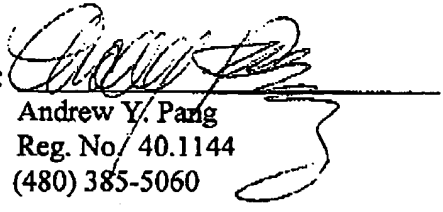
application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ, P.C.

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By:


Andrew Y. Pang
Reg. No. 40.1144
(480) 385-5060